

## A1: Concerns about children’s safety and welfare - Childminders

### What do I need to know?

- Legal Framework
  - [The Children Act 1989](#)
  - [Children Act 2004](#)
  - [Protection of Children Act 1978](#)
  - [Data Protection Act 1998](#)
  - [Children Act 2004 - Explanatory Notes](#)
  - [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#)
  - [Sexual Offences Act 2003](#)
  - [Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)
  - [Equality Act 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)
- [EYFS statutory framework for childminders \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) page 16, paragraph 3.8 – 3.9.
- See model Child Protection Policies on SchoolsNet and links below for contact details and training opportunities.

Safeguarding policies and procedures (pages 9-10 of audit)	Things to consider and discuss:
<p>If you have concerns about children's safety or welfare, do you ensure you immediately notify your local authority children’s social care team, in line with local reporting procedures, and, in emergencies, the police?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you train all, any assistants to understand your safeguarding policy and procedures including the local safeguarding partnership procedures, and ensure that everyone has up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues?</li> <li>• Do you know the processes you must follow if you have concerns about a child’s safety or welfare?</li> <li>• Do you have up to date contact information for safeguarding partnerships and agencies?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you considered that you may need a different telephone number for a child who resides within in a different local authority?</li> </ul>
<p>Do you take into account the government's statutory guidance <a href="#">Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a> and 'Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales'?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you read the latest version of the statutory guidance and know where to find this information?</li> <li>• Do you know what you would be expected to do to support and protect a child within this document?</li> </ul>
<p>Have you referred to the government's statutory guidance: <a href="#">Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a> ?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you know that you and, or any assistants have referred to and where statutory implement the government's statutory guidance 'Keeping children safe in education'? Do they know how to access this document?</li> <li>• Does your policy adequately enable you to notify agencies with statutory responsibilities <b>without delay</b> if they have concerns about a child's safety or welfare, i.e. social care services and, in an emergency, the police?</li> <li>• How do you or any assistants know how to report or make a referral to about:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police</li> <li>- Starting Point</li> <li>- Local Safeguarding Designated Officer (LADO)</li> <li>- Early Help Services &amp; assessment</li> <li>- Children's Social Care</li> <li>- Prevent</li> <li>- Channel</li> <li>- Female Genital Mutilation</li> <li>- Online safety concerns</li> <li>- National Referral Mechanism</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How do you ensure referral processes and contacts are easily accessible?</li> <li>• How do you know referrals are made without delay?</li> <li>• How do you disseminate any updates to any assistants?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you have a regular safeguarding agenda item at supervision discussions?</li> <li>• How do you ensure any assistants understand and can act upon all safeguarding updates?</li> <li>• Do you ensure you and any assistants complete child protection training and are able to identify signs of possible abuse and respond appropriately? How do you know?</li> <li>• What records do you keep of safeguarding training, are they up to date and how do you use records to identify when training needs renewing?</li> <li>• How do you know that the content of training will support you to know how to identify, understand and respond appropriately to signs of possible abuse and neglect?</li> </ul>
<p>Do you <b>ensure</b> you inform Ofsted or your childminder agency of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere)?</p> <p>Do you <b>ensure</b> you (the registered provider) notify Ofsted or your childminder agency of the action taken in respect of the allegations?</p> <p>Do you <b>ensure</b> the notification is made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but at the latest within 14 days of the allegations being made?</p> <p><b>Are you aware a registered provider who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with this requirement by not informing Ofsted, commits an offence?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you and, or any assistants know what constitutes an allegation of serious harm or abuse of any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere)?</li> <li>• Do you and, or any assistants know when and how to notify these agencies? How will you ensure this is done as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within 14 days of the allegations being made?</li> <li>• Do you have policies &amp; procedures to follow in the event of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any persons living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere)? What are these procedures? How do you know they are implemented?</li> <li>• Do you have policies &amp; procedures to follow in the event of notifying Ofsted or your childminder agency of the action taken in respect of the allegations? What are these procedures? How do you know they are implemented?</li> <li>• Do you act upon advice given from these agencies? Have you kept a record? How do you monitor the actions and the impact they have had?</li> <li>• When would you need to inform your insurance provider of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of any child in your care?</li> </ul>

## Useful links and further help:

### [Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

[Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings](#)

[Early years inspection handbook](#)

[Report a serious childcare incident](#)

[Information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners](#)

[Home \(saferrecruitmentconsortium.org\)](#) - (Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings)

[Disqualification Under the Childcare Act](#)

[Counter-terrorism strategy \(CONTEST\) 2018](#)

[Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel \(PMAP\) guidance](#)

[National Referral Mechanism Guidance](#)

[Information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners](#)

[Data protection](#)

[ICO](#) – Information Commissioners Office

[NSPCC](#) – National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

[Derbyshire County Council - Support for families and early help](#)

[Prevent referrals \(saferderbyshire.gov.uk\)](#)

[Derby & Derbyshire - Emotional Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Stronger Families Safer Children](#)

[Think Family](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Child or adult at risk of immediate harm and in need of protection:** Derbyshire Police – 999/ Starting Point – 01629 533190

**Worried about a child:** Derbyshire Police - 101/ Starting Point Consultation & Advice Service for Professionals - 01629 535353/ [Starting Point Referral Form](#)/

Local Safeguarding Designated Officer - 01629 533190/ [Derby and Derbyshire LADO Referral Form](#)

**Education Data Hub/Data Protection:** Email - [educationdatahub@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:educationdatahub@derbyshire.gov.uk)

DBS The East Midlands Regional Outreach Officer: Email [DBSRegionaloutreach@dbs.gov.uk](mailto:DBSRegionaloutreach@dbs.gov.uk)/Tel: 01325 953 562 / 07867 153 500

## TRAINING

DSL training: [Derbyshire Early Years Service - Eventbrite](#) or Email: [CS.EYS@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:CS.EYS@derbyshire.gov.uk)

Other training: [Training \(ddscp.org.uk\)](https://www.ddscp.org.uk)

## MODEL POLICIES for the PVI sector

[Safeguarding \(derbyshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)

[Derbyshire SchoolsNet - Early Years Quality Team](#)